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ROOM 3616

4 JUNE 1932.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION

BULLETIN



NUMBER 178.



PUBLISHED FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISSEMINATING

GENERAL INFORMATION OF PROBABLE INTEREST TO

THE SERVICE.



OFFICER PERSONNEL

DUTIES OF JUNIOR OFFICERS.

Chapter 31 of the Navy Regulations has been revised and will be issued to the service in change number 14. The Bureau of Navigation has prepared and issued an additional sheet to be made out and attached to each Report on Fitness of Ensign.

GENERAL LINE DUTIES FOR NAVAL AVIATORS.

In order that Naval Aviators may become proficient in all branches of their profession, the Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet, has directed that advantage be taken of opportunities to give aviators experience in the usual duties of Line officers, including experience in standing deck watch in port and at sea.

COMMENDATION.

The Secretary of the Navy, on 27 May 1932, addressed a letter to Lieutenant E. E. Pare, U.S. Navy, Washington Navy Yard, commending him for his initiative and ability displayed in conceiving and developing a rotary line switch circuit for use with the automatic telephone systems installed aboard naval vessels.

ENLISTED PERSONNEL

TRAINING COURSES COMPLETED.

During the quarter ended 31 March 1932, the following number of training courses were completed:

Seaman Branch.....	1316
Artificer Br. (E.R.).....	1578
Artificer Br. (Deck).....	445
Special Br.....	439
Commissary Br.....	100
Messman Br.....	68
Aviation Br.....	174
Special Courses.....	103
General Courses.....	7
Total.....	4230

COMMENDATIONS.

The following-named men received commendatory letters from the Secretary of the Navy for the reasons given below:

Walter E. Allen, 299-23-21, Seaman first class, U.S.N., U.S.S. Reina Mercedes, for rescuing a seaman from drowning.

Roy E. Hanlin, 170-55-71, ex-Seaman second class, now residing at 9714 Otis Street, South Gate, California, for rescuing a seaman from drowning.

John J. Riccio, 206-32-11, Machinist's Mate first class, U.S.S. Chicago, for rescuing a seaman from drowning.

SWIMMING MEET AT BALBOA, C. Z.

In the All Service Swimming Meet recently held at Balboa, C.Z., Charles A. Richter, Boatswain's Mate second class, U.S.S. Hannibal, won the gold medal, finishing first in four events and third in the other in which he was entered.

NAVAL OBSERVATORY

SECOND SETTING DEVICE FOR COMPARING WATCHES.

To eliminate the undesirable features in the present methods of second setting, the Naval Observatory has altered a number of comparing watches for issue to the service for experimental purposes. In this alteration the second hand is stopped by a pin but the second hand shaft continues to rotate. The second hand is held to the shaft by springs which are sufficiently strong to carry the hand around when the pin is released, but not strong enough to stop the works or interfere with them unduly when the pin is in place. Lieutenant Marcy M. Dupre, Jr., shop foreman Jacob Rheinbold, and watch-maker Ingild Povelsen designed this method of second setting.

The Naval Observatory is the carrying point for comparing watches. Consequently ships, having funds available from the regular quarterly allotment, may obtain comparing watches with the Observatory second setting device by submitting requisitions on the Naval Observatory. The invoice price for comparing watches is \$19.45 either with or without the second setting device. Ships should state on requisitions, watch, comparing regulated to mean (or to sidereal) time, fitted with Observatory second setting device, if these special watches are desired, otherwise the regular comparing watch will be issued.

MISCELLANEOUS

NAVY RELIEF SOCIETY.

The Bureau of Navigation is heartily in sympathy with the work of the Navy Relief Society. The existing depression has added greatly to the burden of relief work. The following extracts are quoted from a letter from a dependent mother after the death of her son, a retired enlisted man:

".....I am so truly grateful as I never was so needful in my life.

"This great depression.....my five years' illness.....
unfaithful friends whom my son staked twenty years' hard
earnings on, together with my own inheritance.....My son's
death has stripped us of any support.

"This seems a God send to me and words do not express
my appreciation.

"With my dear son living I had the world, now at my
age, what have I left.

"So with true thankfulness.....

"(signed)-----"

LETTER OF APPRECIATION OF FLEET REVIEW.

The following letter addressed to the Commander-in-Chief, U.S.
Fleet, cannot but cause a surge of pride at being a part of this Navy:

"GILMAN HOT SPRINGS

"San Jacinto, Calif.

"April 21, 1932.

"Admiral Schofield,
Commander-in-Chief of The Pacific Fleet,
San Francisco.

"My dear Admiral Schofield:

"I find myself wondering if you had any curiosity about the re-
action of the spectators who lined Palos Verdes Cliffs Tuesday after-
noon when the naval parade took place. If so, read on:

"Seated in my car with a prosperous retired engineer, we awaited
what proved to be the finest naval exhibition either of us had ever
witnessed. The engineer was born in Scotland, receiving his early
education there and his higher education in the United States. I
mention this because "Britinia Rules the Waves" is ever strong in
British-born naturalized Americans. I have not read any newspaper
accounts which doubtless you have seen.

"I recall the return of the fleet following the battle of Santi-
ago and the Dewey parade (I was in the old Plaza hotel in Fifty-ninth
Street) and many parades since. In a land of parade there is the
blare of music, flying colors, flags, brilliant uniforms, noise -
perpetual action or movement. How different was your exodus from
San Pedro. Through the hazy atmosphere from a point perhaps three
miles north of Point Fermin, I suddenly noticed a vessel, ghostlike,
almost the color of the clouds. It did not seem to move. Now a second
similar fighting craft appeared in its place and the first one was
farther out to sea. Still no apparent movement. The first vessel

was getting nearer to us but seemed still as if anchored and even intervals, as exact as the link in a chain, a string of battle craft appeared.

"Then the smaller vessels in double file - a larger vessel chaperoning them! Always the same distance apart - always even, not one (except the Commander's, which was alone) ahead of the other. Then great battleships, airplane carriers, the poor 'Langley' so ugly with a flat 'skyline' but doing her part, the hospital ships (white), supply ships and submarines, all equally distanced; the chain had unrolled evenly; its head had disappeared in the mist and soon after the last 'link' had likewise passed.

"The absence of music, the seeming absence of color and motion, no men in uniform visible, absolute quiet. A great display of discipline and a formidable exhibition of power. What an impressive sight!

"I heard no enthusiastic cheering, yet nobody took his eyes off the fleet as it was passing. A feeling of admiration too great to express in shouting prevailed. It was our Navy! We do not have to scream to show appreciation for a child. We feel it quietly.

"So, if on the bridge, your field glasses in hand, you, with pride swelling your heart, wondered, we on the cliff with greater pride and deep admiration watched in almost breathless interest the most silent parade, the most inspiring procession, the grandest sight our eyes had every witnessed.

"Perhaps the enlisting advertisement, instead of 'Join the Navy and see the world', should read: 'Join the Navy and inspire the world!'

"Very respectfully yours,
"/s/ Joseph Patterson."

NEW SMALL ARMS MEDALS.

Article 307 of the Small Arms Firing Regulations and Instructions, U. S. Navy, 1931, specifies that new medals will be awarded to officers and men who qualify as Expert Rifleman and Expert Pistol Shot for the first time. The effective date of these regulations was 1 July 1931. Accordingly, officers and men who qualified at any time prior to this effective date are not eligible for the award of these medals.

CRUISERS NIGHT BATTLE PRACTICE.

Standings of Cruisers in Night Battle Practice, 1931-32, were as follows:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. PENSACOLA. | 5. NORTHAMPTON. |
| 2. LOUISVILLE. | 6. CHESTER. |
| 3. CHICAGO. | 7. SALT LAKE CITY. |
| 4. AUGUSTA. | 8. HOUSTON. |

LEECH TENNIS MATCH.

The Leech Tennis Match between the Army and Navy will be played on the courts of the Army Navy Country Club, Arlington, Va., on July 18th. Five excellent all-weather courts will be available for the occasion.

NAVAL ALMANAC FOR JUNE.

JUNE 1.

1813 CHESAPEAKE captured by H.M.S. SHANNON off Boston.

JUNE 2.

1865 Galveston surrendered to the Union Naval Forces, Lee having surrendered to Grant nearly two months before.

JUNE 3.

1898 USS MERRIMAC (Collier), sunk at entrance to harbor of Santiago, Cuba, by Lieutenant Hobson (CC), U.S.N., and eight volunteers from fleet to prevent escape of Spanish squadron.

JUNE 4.

1805 Peace made with Tripoli; tribute to Barbary states discontinued.
1829 USS FULTON accidentally blown up at Brooklyn, N. Y. First steamer built for U. S. Navy and originally intended to throw hot water as well as shot - 48 killed.

JUNE 5.

1813 Captain Lawrence died at Halifax.

JUNE 6.

1862 U.S. Gunboats engaged and destroyed Confederate gunboats at Memphis.

JUNE 10.

1871 Two Korean forts captured by boat expedition from the USS MONOCACY and COLORADO.

JUNE 13.

1867 Naval Brigade from USS WYOMING and USS HARTFORD rout savages of Formosa, driving them into interior, burning their villages in retaliation for massacre of the crew of an American ship.

JUNE 14.

- 1777 Congress passed resolution which made the Stars and Stripes the official flag of the United States.
- 1917 Sailing of first contingent of American troops to France.

JUNE 17.

- 1815 U.S. Squadron, Commodore Decatur, captured Algerian flagship.

JUNE 18.

- 1812 Declaration of War by United States against Great Britain.

JUNE 19.

- 1864 USS KEARSARGE, Captain Winslow, sank Confederate cruiser ALABAMA, Captain Semmes, off Cherbourg, France.

JUNE 20.

- 1898 Captain Glass, U.S.N., commanding USS CHARLESTON, appeared off the island of Guam and fired on fort Santa Cruz. Little resistance was offered, and American Naval Forces captured the islands before nightfall.

JUNE 21.

- 1919 German crews sank interned ships at Scapa Flow.

JUNE 22.

- 1803 U.S. Frigate JOHN ADAMS, Captain Rodgers, destroys a Tripolitan man-of-war.
- 1884 Lieut. Greely, U.S.A., and six of his exploring party, rescued by USS Thetis and Bear, Commander Schley.

JUNE 23.

- 1812 US Squadron engaged in unsuccessful pursuit of British Frigate BELVIDERA.

JUNE 25.

- 1859 Capt. Tattnall, U.S.S. Powhatan, aided British and French in their attack on forts at mouth of Peiho River, after British had been treacherously fired upon by Chinese.

JUNE 26.

- 1862 Bombardment of Vicksburg began on this date, and two days later Farragut passed forts with Union Squadron.

JUNE 27.

- 1861 Commander J. H. Ward killed off Mathias Point. First Federal naval officer to lose his life in Civil War.

JUNE 28.

- 1814 American Sloop WASP captured British Sloop REINDEER in English Channel.
1919 Peace treaty signed at Versailles by associated powers and German delegates.

JUNE 29.

- 1864 USS SAUGUS and HUNCHBACK attacked Confederate batteries at Four Mile Creek, Va.

JUNE 30.

- 1815 U.S. Sloop PEACOCK captured British Brig NAUTILUS, which gave the first news of peace and which led to her being released the following day.
1815 Commodore Decatur concluded a Peace Treaty with the Bey of Algiers.